

FIELD CROPS

HAY

Alfalfa harvested acreage remained at 290,000 acres in 2000, unchanged from 1999. This year's average yield was 5.2 tons per acre, matching the 1999 record-setting production of 1.5 million tons. The value of production for all hay was the highest on record at 200 million, 3.5 percent above last year as the average price increased to \$120 a ton.

SORGHUM

Dry weather throughout the eastern part of the state left much of the dryland sorghum in poor condition. The state's sorghum acreage harvested for grain dropped to 65,000 acres compared to 135,000 harvested in 1999. Yields averaged 25 bushels per acre for a total production of 1.6 million bushels compared to the 7.4 million bushels produced last year. The average price increased from a year earlier to \$2.05 per bushel. Total value of production was \$3.3 million a significant drop from the \$13.6 million in 1999. An estimated 5,000 acres were harvested for silage with an average yield of 18 tons per acre producing 90,000 tons overall.

CORN

New Mexico's grain corn crop, at 11.7 million bushels was an 18 percent drop from last year's record production. Harvested acreage dropped to 73,000 acres, 10,000 acres less than the previous year. Average yields also declined to 160 bushels per acre, the lowest since 1995. The average price increased slightly to \$2.50 per bushel bringing the value of production to \$29.2 million, 19 percent below 1999. Corn harvested for silage reached a new high, due to the increasing demand from the growing dairy industry. A total of 75,000 acres were harvested, with an average yield of 23 tons per acre. Total production of silage in the state came to 1.7 million tons.

WHEAT

New Mexico's winter wheat production shifted downward to 4.2 million bushels in 2000, the lowest level since 1996. The downturn was the result of drought like conditions causing many of the 470,000 planted acres not to be harvested. Harvested acreage for 2000 was estimated at 175,000 acres, down 38 percent from the previous year and average yield was only 24 bushels per acre. The value of the wheat crop was \$11.1 million with the average annual price increasing to \$2.65 per bushel.

PEANUTS

Peanut acreage reached a new high in 2000 with 27,300 acres planted of which 26,000 acres were harvested. However, drought conditions during the early season and heavy rains during harvest hampered yields and affected quality. Yields were the lowest seen since the early 70's at 2,115 pounds per acre. Production was 55.0 million pounds, 11 percent below the 61.6 million pounds harvested in 1999. Crop value dropped 4.5 percent to \$16.1 million with the average price at \$.293 per pound.

COTTON

Upland cotton producers harvested 67,000 acres in 2000, 15 percent less than 1999. Yields averaged 724 pounds per acre, the highest since 1996. Total production was estimated at 101,000 bales, 7 percent less than a year earlier. Prices increased over last year averaging \$.539 per pound yielding a total value produced of \$33.6 million. American-Pima harvested acreage at 4,100 acres continued to decline to the lowest level since the 1940's. Yields were also down 17 percent at 539 pounds per acre, dropping total production to 4,600 bales. The value of the crop was placed at \$2.8 million with prices averaging \$.809 per pound.